



AGENDA ACTION FORM

Consideration of a Resolution Requesting a Private Act from the Tennessee General Assembly Amending Article III, Section 5 of the City Charter

To: Board of Mayor and Aldermen
From: Chris McCartt, City Manager *CM*

Action Form No.: AF-20-2024
Work Session: January 16, 2024
First Reading: N/A
Final Adoption: January 16, 2024
Staff Work By: Mayor Shull/Rowlett
Presentation By: Mayor Shull

Recommendation:
Approve the resolution.

Executive Summary:
The attached resolution requests the Tennessee General Assembly pass a private act to amend Article III, Section 5 of the Charter of the City of Kingsport which establishes compensation for the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. This amendment would empower the board to set the compensation which board members receive by ordinance. The resolution also calls for the ratification of the private act by a two-thirds vote of the legislative body.

Presently, the Charter specifies a set amount for the compensation of the Mayor and the Aldermen. The current rate of compensation was set by a charter amendment ratified in 1989. Many other cities set the compensation for the governing body by ordinance through the budgetary process. Several neighboring cities follow this process including Bristol, Johnson City, Greeneville, and Elizabethton.

The City's Charter can only be amended by a private act of the General Assembly which must then be ratified locally either by a two-thirds majority vote of the board or by majority vote in a referendum. Ratification is a requirement pursuant to Article XI, Section 9 of the *Tennessee Constitution*. In the past, ratification has predominantly been by a two-thirds majority vote of the board.

Historically, the process to amend the Charter has been initiated through passage of a resolution by the board.

- Attachments:**
- 1. Resolution
 - 2. Article III, Section 5 of the Charter of the City of Kingsport

	<u>Y</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>O</u>
Cooper	—	—	—
Duncan	—	—	—
George	—	—	—
Montgomery	—	—	—
Olterman	—	—	—
Phillips	—	—	—
Shull	—	—	—